

GREGORY J. NICKELS

KENNETH R. BOUNDS Parks and Recreation

# Magnuson Park Update

A Great Urban Park

# Magnuson Park Continues To Morph

hanges at Magnuson Park continue. With each passing year the vision of developing a multi-purpose regional park comes closer to realization. The development of Magnuson Park and the improvements to buildings in the Sand Point Historic District continue. The completion of the multi-purpose sports meadow, re-vegetation of areas around the swim beach parking lot, and the improvements to the North Shore Recreation Area cap over eight years of design, environmental review, permitting and construction. Each project dramatically improves and expands the parks recreation and environmental mission.

As 2006 gets underway, permit applications have been filed to begin the long awaited wetland and habitat restoration and sportsfields project. Credit should be given to the project manager and design team who were able to move beyond the initial controversy. Additionally, working together with the citizen's advisory team, a

diverse group representing many interests, a unanimous approval was received for the next phase.

The Mountaineers are expected to finalize the design and begin renovating the old navy motor pool (building 67) in late 2006 or early 2007

The Magnuson Community Center continues to expand its programming through recreation coordinator, Karla Withrow. Special events in the community center, as well as "The Brig" and the hangar in building 30 continue to expand the recreational opportunities offered by the Parks Department. Magnuson tenants Civic Light Opera, Thistle Theatre and Circus Contraption use the theater regularly for their performances, along with an assortment of performing groups and audiences.

Stay tuned for more improvements to come.



Multipurpose SportsMeadow — lookin good!

#### **Magnuson Park**

General information: 206-684-4946 Or visit www.seattle.gov/park/magnuson.

Special Events: 206-233-7892 Tenant Information: 206-684-4218

Emergencies: Parks Duty Officer 206-915-6249

Call 911 to report incidents

## Redevelopment Projects

Beginning in 2005, and continuing into this year, a number of public-private redevelopment projects are underway. Seattle Parks and Recreation initiated three separate RFPs (Request for Proposal) to attract private investment for redeveloping buildings within the park. New uses must meet the parks and recreation mission.

The first process was for the redevelopment of buildings in the northwestern part of the park. These included buildings 2, 11, and 27. Notices were sent to more than 300 sports and arts organizations in the Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver, BC metropolitan areas. Almost 15 organizations indicated interest in the process and were screened on

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## Greetings from Charles Ng

Happy new year to all our park neighbors, local businesses, volunteer community groups, tenants, and park users! I hope that your new year has gotten off to a good start. I want to first express my sincere appreciation to all of you for your ongoing support and patronage of Magnuson Park. I am continually amazed at the amount of use by our citizens of this park.

I also want to send a personal message of thanks to Joseph and Stephen Greer and their friends, all Roosevelt High School students, who have spent their Saturday mornings over the last couple of months picking up litter, beer cans, and garbage at our park. You are fine young men who responded to our call for stewardship and community service at Magnuson Park. Thank you!

In this issue you will read about the many things that are happening or will be happening at Magnuson Park. I am very excited about these changes. Let me give you a few highlights. If you have not had a chance to see it, please come by and look at the North Shore area of the park. Near completion, and a major focal component of this project, the public small craft hand launching and boat storage will be a major

water recreation destination. The multi-purpose sports meadow project is done and we are waiting for the new grass to become well established before opening it for public use in late summer. Work on Phase 2 of the Wetland/Sportsfield and Habitat Project will likely occur later this summer as well. Again, thanks to you, our tenants, and neighbors for your patience during construction projects.

As we prepare for the upcoming summer season, we will ensure that there will be temporary bathroom facilities available to support the high volume of use at our swimming beach and shoreline area. Information will be posted to provide guidance and assistance to our citizens.

In closing, I believe that Magnuson Park is truly becoming a great urban park, considering all the changes that have occurred in the last 10 years. This is why I am so excited to be a part of these magnificent changes and believe that you share my excitement. Last but not least, I want to acknowledge the incredible staff at Magnuson Park. All are valuable public servants.

Until next time, have a great day!



Bringing the beach to the northshore

### **Redevelopment Projects**

Continued from page one

the merits of previous financial and management experience. In the final stage of the process, selected organizations were invited to submit



**Charles Ng** 

detailed proposals. These were due in early February.

An RFP was initiated to find an organization to renovate and manage the theater in the Magnuson Community Center. Civic Light Opera responded with a proposal to transform what originally was an auditorium into a top-notch theater. Negotiations have begun to put together a lease that will be presented to the City Council for approval.

In late 2005, an RFP was initiated to redevelop building 18, the

former firehouse. Seattle Parks is seeking proposals to redevelop and operate this building. Potential Uses for this building include: park visitor concessions – beverage/food services or small retail services; visual/performing arts, environmental education, or recreation programs; and general office space supporting arts, cultural, recreation programs. Notices were sent to more than 140 organizations in western Washington that deal with animal welfare, arts, sports, and food and beverage concessionaires. Proposals are due May 8, 2006.

Last but not least on our roster of redevelopment projects is the proposal by the outdoor recreation organization, The Mountaineers, for building 67. This is a former motor pool garage located in the northwest part of the park. In early 2005, Seattle Parks staff and Mountaineers representatives began negotiations on a long-term lease for the building. The Mountaineers will renovate the building for use as their head-quarters and Seattle branch clubhouse. They will also construct an outdoor climbing wall on the south side of the building.

In mid-February a lease will be presented to the City Council for review. When approved the lease will permit The Mountaineers to use the building for up to 30 years. Seattle Parks and Recreation look forward to the addition of The Mountaineers to the Magnuson Park family.

#### **BUILDING 5B TO BECOME UW RESEARCH CENTER**

Over the next 3 years, the Department of Construction Management will embark on an ambitious project to develop a 28,000 sq. ft. research and education center in building 5B. This center will be known as "The Pacific Northwest Center for Construction Research and Education." The Center is divided into three major functional areas: the Virtual Construction Laboratory (VCL), the Methods and Materials Laboratory (MML), and the Construction Education Laboratory (CEL).

The VCL will focus on modeling, simulation, and visualization of construction engineering and management processes. It will house a 1,200 sq. ft. Holosuite and a 120 degrees projection screen (30' x 15') for virtual and augmented reality applications. This lab is being developed in collaboration with UW's Human Interface Technology Laboratory.

The MML will focus on productivity, safety, and health. It will incorporate two primary components: a large high bay space in which construction systems will be used to work on specified building components or materials using standard or innovative techniques, and an integrated high-speed data acquisition system to capture multiple-feed digital video and instrument signals using high speed wireless telemetry. This space is being developed in collaboration with UW's Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Department.

Finally, The CEL will investigate different pedagogical approaches related to construction education. It will house a two-way teleconferencing classroom with experimental tele-observation and tele-operation capabilities. It will also incorporate a state-of-the-art multimedia production facility to create a variety of educational materials. This lab is being developed in partnership with UW's College of Education.

The first phase of construction for this new Center is scheduled to begin spring 2006.

## Space Is Emerging Again

tenant since 1994, Sand Point Arts and Cultural Exchange (SPACE) is emerging from a two-year hiatus to once again begin fundraising and programming for arts and cultural activities at Warren G. Magnuson Park. SPACE is moving into a new office in the Brig and plans are underway for a summer outdoor sculpture exhibit. If you or someone you know is interested in helping to ensure a vital future for arts and culture at Warren G. Magnuson Park, please contact Julianna Ross at 206-522-9529 (voicemail).

## Bird Watching Anyone?

ake a winter walk at Magnuson Park along the beautiful Lake Washington shoreline for a breathtaking view of the snow covered Cascade Mountains and Mount Rainier. If you have ever considered becoming a "birder" take along a copy of "Birds of Seattle" and a pair of binoculars. Magnuson is a wonderful place to begin your birding adventure. Did you know 90% of the birds recorded in King County have been seen in Seattle and about 180 species have been sighted at the park during the Seattle Audubon Society monthly bird counts? Since the Park and Lake Washington are on the Pacific Flyway, one of the three great freeways for birds migrating north-south, you will see large flocks of birds on the lake during winter including the American Wigeon, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead and Scaup. You might see our city bird, the elegant Great Blue Heron on a piling or our national bird, the Bald Eagle sitting in a Cottonwood along the shore. Osprey, Seahawks, Red-tails, Cooper's and Sharp-shinned hawks are also sited. Walk to the south end of the shoreline past the boat launch and pick up a brochure at the red-roofed Educational Pavilion. Head up into Promontory Point woods to look for upland birds, the Downy Woodpecker, North America's smallest woodpecker, colorful Northern Flickers, or an occasional Pileated Woodpecker, usually thought of as Woody Woodpecker.

> --Lynn Ferguson, Education Coordinator MESA, Co-Chair Urban Habitat Seattle Audubon

# Mayor Seeks Suggestions On Capital Projects

ayor Greg Nickels kicked off his 2007-2008 budget process by announcing an unprecedented opportunity for the community to suggest capital improvement program (CIP) projects. Seattleites have between now and March 20 to submit their ideas to the department of finance. All suggestions will be con-

sidered by relevant city departments and neighborhood district councils. According to Mayor Nickels, our capital improvement program makes up a significant portion of the City budget. Each year we review what's already on the list against projects we might need to add. Now the community can use our new CIP project suggestion form to help us make better budget decisions.

The CIP project suggestion form, along with instructions and a list of department contacts, are available at City Halls citizens service bureau, in neighborhood service centers throughout Seattle and on the City Web site: http://www.seattle.gov/financedepartment/CIP\_Project\_Suggestion\_Form.htm

# Getting Bookish at Magnuson

pril and September brings a flurry of increased activity to Building 30 for the bi-annual book sale, involving hundreds of volunteers, tens of thousands of books, several hundred tables, and a fork lift! Over one weekend this former naval reserve hangar gets converted into a bibliophile's

dream – one of the largest used book sales in the United States.

Friends of The Seattle Public Library, a long time tenant, has held their annual sales at Magnuson Park since the fall of 1997 and are known as the "Friends of the Library" (FOL). You can always find volunteers accepting and sorting books, CDs, videos, DVDs, books on tape, LP records and art prints every Monday, Thursday, and Friday in

preparation for the books sales. Proceeds from the sales help sponsor projects and activities that are not covered by the Library's operating budget. The sorting room is open for donations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Thursday, and Friday. Phone: 206-523-4053; web site: www.splfriends.org

FOL Book – See events schedule.



Where else can you get the feeling of being outdoors on a rainy night while staying dry than hanger 30 at Magnuson Park? On January 27 over 300 lucky participants enjoyed a Chinese New Year Celebration in this extraor-



Year of the Dog celebration at Magnuson Park



Literacy prevails

#### MEETING ON SITING A NEW BRANCH LIBRARY IN SAND POINT SET FOR MARCH 23

A community meeting to discuss possible locations for a new branch library in Sand Point is scheduled for 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 23 at the Wedgwood Presbyterian Church, 8008 35th Ave. N.E., meeting room. For more information, call David Kunselman, Library senior capital projects manager, (206) 386-4096.

The meeting will include a presentation on potential sites by the Library's capital program staff and a discussion of the opportunities and challenges of each location. City Librarian Deborah L. Jacobs and members of The Seattle Public Library board of trustees will attend to listen to public comments about the siting options. People also will be encouraged to suggest other possible sites.

In 2000, \$1.4 million was earmarked from the Opportunity Fund for a 5,000-square-foot Sand Point Branch with the assumption the branch would be a tenant improvement project in an existing building. The Opportunity Fund was created as part of the "Libraries for All" (LFA) bond measure to be used for new or unanticipated neighborhood library capital needs for underserved areas of Seattle. For more information, visit the Library's Web site at www.spl.org.

dinary setting. For the first hour, the crowd listened to the music of China while trying Chinese arts and crafts, games and food. Then it was time for the main event – firecrackers and a real Chinese Lion dance performed by Mak Fai Lion Dancers. After the colorful Lion Dance Mai Fai troupe treated the audience to a Kung Fu demonstration. Everyone had a good time and the venue lent itself well for such a winter event.

## Upcoming Events at Warren G. Magnuson Park

Magnuson Park has a full calendar of diverse and exiting events throughout the year. Magnuson Park offers something for every taste; whether you're looking for adventure, or just a really great bargain, you'll find it here.

#### **February**

Feb. 17 – 19, Thistle Theatre presents The Tiger & the Dried Persimmon. A classic puppet theater with a modern twist puts on performances for school groups at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Friday, and for families on Friday @ 7:30 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday @ 1 p.m. for more information visit http://www.thistletheatre.org/schedule.htm



Ampitheater — From a parking lot to an events spot!

Feb. 18 Super Jock 'n' Jill / New Balance Winter Grand Prix 5K run/walk Magnuson Race Course. This 5k fun run is to raise funds for Federal Way Youth Track Club. For more information contact superjocknjill@qwest.net

# Feb. 18 - 19 Group Health Cooperative International Bike Expo 2006.

Hangar 27 in Magnuson Park, this is one of the three largest consumer bicycle shows in the nation. Produced by Cascade Bicycle Club since 1988, the event celebrates the joys of cycling with seminars, displays and a full range of products and services for all kinds of bicycle enthusiast. For more information, please contact cbcexpoproducer@cascade.org

#### Feb. 19 Seattle Bike Swap 2006.

Hangar 30, 9 a.m. -3 p.m. Seattle's biggest and best Bicycle Garage Sale, with 70 vendors selling used & new bicycles and bike related merchandise. For more information contact DVelo@comcast.net

**Feb. 23-26 Women of Wisdom Conference.** The Brig @ Magnuson Starting at 9 a.m.; lectures workshops, performances and art show empowering the dreams and spirit of women in a commu-

nity environment. For information, please contact wow@womenofwisdom.org

#### March

March 3 – 5 Academia della Spada presents the 4W Western Martial Arts Workshop; an educational and athletic event featuring historical and classical fencing. For more information contact cecil@academiadellaspada.com

March 4 An Evening of Glitter and Glamour; this is a fund raiser for Civic Light Opera. at the Magnuson Community Center Auditorium. For more information go to http://www.thinkmilestones.com/clo/

March 11 AE II Auction in Hangar 30 6 p.m. -11 p.m. This annual fundraiser supports AE II school programs such as music, art, field trips & the library. For more information call 206.252-5300

#### March 11 RCAW Roofing

Educational Expo. Hangar 27. The educational expo is put on annually by the Roofing Contractors Association of Washington to train roofers in new techniques through both hands-on work and seminars. For more information please contact Mistie Chiddick at 206.262.8010 or email execdir@rcaw.com

March 11- 26 GreenStage Spring show Thurs.-Fri. @ Workshop 30; doors open at 7 p.m. The Critically acclaimed Green Stage theater group presents this free performance is a part of their American Classics series. For more info, contact www.greenstage.org

March 17 – 19 Lakeside Rummage Sale. Hangar 27. 9-5 Friday, 9-4 Saturday & 9-1 Sunday. This 3-day sale is put on annually by the Lakeside Parents Association and Lakeside Educational Enrichment Program (LEEP) to raise funds for the school. For more information please visit www.lakesideschool.org

March 17 – April 2 Civic Light Opera presents "Closer Than Ever" Fridays-Saturdays @ 6 p.m. and Sundays 2 12 p.m. at the Magnuson Community Center Auditorium. For more information go to http://www.thinkmilestones.com/clo/

March 18 Summit Elementary Auction in the View Ridge and Wedgwood rooms of the Brig at Magnuson Park. For more information call (206) 252-4500.

March 25 Rat City Rollergirls March Bout. 6 p.m. -9 p.m. in Hangar 27 at Magnuson Park. Thrill to the brutal antics of Seattle's high-speed heroines, as the daring debs continue their unstoppable roll to world domination. For more information visit http://ratcityrollergirls.com .

March 31 – April 2 Iwasih Pow-Wow 8 a.m. -11 p.m. This Native American Cultural Event features song, dance and traditional foods, and is part of the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Northwest Indi8an Youth Conference, which shares Native Culture with the Northwest Community. For more information call the Iwasih Boys and Girls Club at 206.325-3942

#### **April**

April 1 – 2 Washington State Obedience Training Club 2006 Obedience Trials, Hangar 30. The American Kennel Club competition for obedience training for dogs. For more information email kylahgold@aol.com

April 5-7 Thistle Theatre presents
Frog Lake. A classic puppet theater with
a modern twist puts on performances for
school groups at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30
p.m. Friday, and for families on Friday
@ 7:30 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday @
1 p.m. for more information visit http://
www.thistletheatre.org/schedule.htm

April 8 Bunny Hop Fun Run Junior League Playground. Come join the Magnuson Community Center staff for this fun fitness challenge put on especially for kids. For more information call 684-7026

April 8-9 Best of the Northwest Spring 2006 Sale Magnuson Hangar 27 . Come enjoy this celebrated arts and crafts show, featuring over 200 of the Northwest's most skilled artisans. For more information visit www.nwcraftsalliance.com

April 9 Eros Antique Market Hangar 30. Great news for people who collect! Its all here; antiques, arts & crafts, collectibles & one-of-a-kind merchandise from up to 250 vendors. Interested in being a vendor? Contact Dennis\_Eros@excite.com

# April 22-23 Friends of the Seattle Public Library Spring Book sale.

Magnuson Hangar 30 . Come enjoy this local tradition; find a bargain or just a quick lit fix for the serious bibliophile. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, 9-5 Saturday and11-4 Sunday. For more information contact book.sale@spl.org

April 23 Northwest Perennial Alliance Plant Sale Hangar 27. This plant sale raises funds for the Northwest Perennial Alliance. For more information email rogermcdonald@msn.com

### April 22 Rat City Rollergirls April

Bout. 6 p.m. -9 p.m. .in Hangar 27 at Magnuson Park. Thrill to the brutal antics of Seattle's high-speed heroines, as the daring debs continue their unstoppable roll to world domination. For more information visit http://ratcityrollergirls.com.

April 29 – 30 Arboretum Florabundance Plant Sale Hangar 27. Bigger and better than ever, the Florabundance Plant sale is moving up to larger Hangar 27 for the first time this year. For more information visit www.arboretumfoundation.org

#### May

May 5 – 21 Civic Light Opera presents "Anything Goes" Fridays-Saturdays @ 6 p.m. and Sundays 2 12 p.m. at the Magnuson Community Center Auditorium. For more information go to http://www.thinkmilestones.com/clo/

May 6 – John Hay auction. This auction will raise funds for John Hay elementary school. Please call (206) 252-2100 for more information.

#### **June**

June 10 - Pontiac Bay Orchestra Big Band Dance. Magnuson Park Community Center Gym. Pontiac Bay presents a fun, all-ages swing dance with special guest, Mach One Jazz Band. 7:30 to 10 PM. Advance tickets \$15 and \$12. For information or tickets: www.pontiacbay. org, 206-364-0907.

Events listed are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. For the most up to date information check our web site at www.seattle.gov/magnuson